

2/3/2009

To Members of the Labor Committee

My name is Gloria Francis, Vice-President and owner of Joma, Inc. 185 Interstate Lane, Waterbury, Connecticut 06705.

I understand Bill # HB-6187, mandates that Connecticut employers pay sick leave, is coming up for discussion. If you vote yes on this Bill companies whether large or small would be forced to reconsider benefit.

Our employees are working 24 hours and some 32 hours a week. Sales are down about 60% and our employees have not had raises in 3 years. Their health benefit deductible is \$2500.00 annually. How much more do you want us to take away from them if this mandate goes through?

Any more mandated bills will put our company in a very serious position and our people without Jobs. If this happens, we have two choices one to close our doors after 56 years or move out of Connecticut to a State, which welcomes business.

I strongly oppose this bill and urge you to consider keeping business and getting new business in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Gloria M Francis